



Getting Married at Grand Canyon

Many people dream about getting married at Grand Canyon National Park. You can have an outdoor wedding and reception at one of the most beautiful scenic vistas in the world. Instead of wedding bells, why not “march down the aisle” to the sounds of singing canyon wrens, the music of the wind playing through the trees, and the fresh scents of cliff rose, sagebrush, and ponderosa pine?



Requirements

To be married in Grand Canyon National Park you must:

- 1) Obtain an Arizona state marriage license. The nearest courthouses are located in
Flagstaff (928) 779- 6535
Williams (928) 635- 2691
Fredonia (928) 643- 7472
Page (928) 645- 8871

- 2) Obtain a special use permit from the National Park Service, if you are planning an outdoor wedding or want to use the Shrine of the Ages on the South Rim. Requests must be made in advance and take two to four weeks to process.
- 3) Arrange for someone to perform the ceremony — a Justice of the Peace, Municipal Judge, or an ordained pastor or priest.

Special Use Permit required

Outdoor weddings and receptions The National Park Service issues a Special Use Permit for any weddings and receptions that take place outdoors along the rims. The cost of the permit is \$175 unless noted elsewhere. Wedding party members and guests must also pay the park entrance fee. Permits must be obtained in advance of your event. All requests for permits must include:

- Name of bride and groom
- Name of responsible party if different
- Daytime phone number
- Exact date and time of event (with second choice if possible)
- Location desired (include second choice)
- Number of people that will be present
- Who will perform the ceremony

Make checks payable to: **U.S. Department of the Interior – NPS**

Please contact:

South Rim

Grand Canyon National Park
ATTN: Special Use Permits
P.O. Box 129
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023
(928) 638-7707
(928) 638-7701 fax

North Rim

May 1 – October 15

Concessions Management Asst.
ATTN: Special Use Permits
Grand Canyon National Park
North Rim, AZ 86052
(928) 638-7749
(928) 638-7867 fax

October 16 – April 30

North Rim Program Assistant
ATTN: Special Use Permits
Grand Canyon National Park
P.O. Box 129
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023
(928) 638-7707
(928) 638-7701 fax

For both rims: <http://www.nps.gov/grca/parkmgmt/sup.htm>

Performing the ceremony

Clergy from churches in Grand Canyon Village will sometimes perform wedding ceremonies, though a period of counseling prior to the wedding may be required.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
P.O. Box 1609
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
(928) 638- 9415

GRAND CANYON BAPTIST CHURCH
P.O. Box 429
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
(928) 638- 2790

GRAND CANYON COMMUNITY CHURCH
(Interdenominational)
P.O. Box 433
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
(928) 638- 2340

EL CRISTO REY CATHOLIC CHURCH
P.O. Box 505
Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023
(928) 638- 2390

Coconino County has four district justices and one municipal judge who may conduct ceremonies at Grand Canyon. Contact justices in advance for availability and fees.

FREDONIA JUSTICE COURT
100 North Main
Fredonia, Arizona 86022
(928) 643- 7472

FLAGSTAFF JUSTICE COURT
200 North San Francisco
Flagstaff, Arizona 86001
(928) 779- 6806

FLAGSTAFF MUNICIPAL COURT
211 West Aspen
Flagstaff, Arizona 86001
(928) 774- 1401

PAGE JUSTICE COURT
P.O. Box 1565
Page, Arizona 86040
(928) 645- 8871

WILLIAMS JUSTICE COURT
117 West Route 66, Suite 180
Williams, Arizona 86046
(928) 635- 2691

South Rim outdoor weddings and receptions

Outdoor weddings along the canyon rim require a special use permit as explained on the other side. There is a \$175 non-refundable permit fee for all sites except Shoshone Point (see below). The permit does not grant exclusive use of the area and public access cannot be restricted in any way. Parking is limited and guests should carpool to the site. The following authorized sites are arranged from west to east along the South Rim. Visit www.nps.gov/grca for maps of the park.

Pima Point Located at the western end of Hermit Road, Pima Point offers a somewhat secluded site for smaller parties. This site is available December, January, and February only, when the road is open to all vehicles.

Rim Worship Site Wedding parties must walk ¼ mile along the Rim Trail from the nearest parking for this site at the west end of Grand Canyon Village. Up to 50 people are allowed.

Grandeur Point This site, a short walk from Yavapai Point, accommodates 45 people. The Yavapai Point parking area is often full, although there is a free shuttle bus stop.

Shoshone Point This isolated site, available May 1 – October 15, is reached via a one-mile unimproved dirt road. The non-refundable fee for Shoshone Point is \$250. The site features picnic tables, grills, and toilet and is restricted to a maximum group of 85. This is the only South Rim viewpoint available for outdoor receptions. Parking is limited and guests may need to be shuttled from Desert View Drive (Highway 64).

Moran Point This point offers expansive views of the canyon, but is not as visited as many others. Wedding parties of up to 35 may use the unpaved, unrailed open area just west of the main viewpoint. Parking is usually available nearby.

Lipan Point Featuring expansive views of the Colorado River, Lipan Point is a few miles from the East Entrance. Wedding parties are limited to 35 people. Tour buses may pull into the adjacent parking area.

South Rim indoor weddings and receptions

Indoor weddings and receptions at park lodges do not require a special use permit from the National Park Service. Make arrangements directly with the concessioner in advance by calling Grand Canyon Lodges (Xanterra Parks and Resorts) at (928) 638-2525.

Shrine of the Ages is an NPS facility used for a variety of events located just west of Park Headquarters. A \$175 non-refundable special use permit is required for this facility that features an auditorium seating 280 and a smaller room for up to 60. Alcohol is not permitted within the building, while food is allowed only in the smaller room. The rooms must be cleaned after use.

North Rim outdoor weddings and receptions

Outdoor weddings on the North Rim require the NPS Special Use Permit (\$175, non-refundable) and are limited to these designated sites. The permit does not grant exclusive use of the area and public access cannot be restricted. Wedding parties must abide by all park regulations. Parking may be limited.

Cape Royal Amphitheater The site is located at Cape Royal, 23 miles from Bright Angel Point and Grand Canyon Lodge. A sign points the way to a small site with six low log benches beyond the picnic area. Maximum group size is 40.

Point Imperial Viewpoint Point Imperial, 11 miles from Bright Angel Point and Grand Canyon Lodge, is the highest viewpoint in the park at 8800 feet. Wedding parties of ten or less may use the viewpoint. Larger gatherings must use the nearby picnic area. The maximum group size for Imperial Point is 20.

Receptions can take place in the public picnic areas at Cape Royal, Point Imperial, or along Highway 67 just north of Bright Angel Point. Wedding parties must provide all food and beverages and clean up the site after the event.

North Rim indoor weddings and receptions

Grand Canyon Lodge does not host weddings or receptions, nor does it hold blocks of rooms for wedding parties. Guests may make individual reservations up to 13 months in advance by

contacting Grand Canyon North Rim Lodge, (877) 386-4383 or www.foreverresorts.com. Be sure to specify the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park when you call.

Weather

South Rim April and May can be sunny, cool, and windy, with winds lasting into June. Summer thunderstorms are common in July, August, and early September. Plan events early in the day to avoid frequent afternoon showers. Cool, crisp autumn days lead to winter snows as early as mid-October.

North Rim The North Rim opens for the season mid-May. Since it is 1,200 feet higher than the South Rim, temperatures are about 5°F cooler, and summer thundershowers are more frequent. Facilities close mid-October, although Highway 67 into the park stays open until the first heavy snowfall.